

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CARACA 04176 101916Z

73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-02 INSE-00 SCA-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01

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R 101700Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3759

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 4176

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, VE

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF FORMER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE TO THE US

REF: CARACAS 1876

1. FORMER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE AND CURRENT COPEI PARTY LEADER DR. LORENZO FERNANDEZ, RECENTLY RETURNED FROM A VISIT TO THE US AND EUROPE, HAS TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER THAT WHEN HE ARRIVED IN NEW YORK ON MARCH 8, ALTHOUGH HE WAS MET BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VENEZUELAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN NEW YORK, HE DID NOT RECEIVE ANY SPECIAL COURTESIES FROM THE US GOVERNMENT. DR. FERNANDEZ HAD BEEN AWARE THAT THE EMBASSY WAS REQUESTING THE NEW YORK RECEPTION CENTER TO ACCORD HIM AND HIS WIFE VIP TREATMENT WHILE PASSING THROUGH IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS (REFTEL).

2. BECAUSE OF DR. FERNANDEZ'S ACUTE SENSITIVITY AS TO HIS OWN PERSONAL DIGNITY, WHICH IS SHARED BY MOST PROMINENT VENEZUELAN POLITICANS, WE URGE THAT ESPECIAL CARE BE TAKEN IN FUTURE TO EXTEND THE APPROPRIATE COURTESIES TO VISITING VENEZUELAN DIGNITARIES WHEN SO REQUESTED BY THIS EMBASSY. MCCLINTOCK

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